Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 5, 2021

The Honorable Joe Biden President 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

We write to you in strong support of maintaining the higher income thresholds for the next round of Economic Income Payments so that people who are struggling in areas with high costs of living, such as our districts, can get the support they need during this crisis.

We understand that the Administration is considering proposals from Republican senators to lower the income threshold for economic relief payments. These lower income thresholds would leave behind struggling individuals and families in regions where the costs are very high. Although the median incomes of households in our districts are above average, so is the cost of living, including basic necessities like housing, transportation and food. Our economic relief efforts need to recognize this reality and maintain support for individuals and families struggling to make ends meet.

Economic support for people living in our districts is not just about the people it directly benefits, but also the businesses who rely on consumers to spend money in their communities. The economic activity generated by these payments is critical to helping hard hit businesses and their employees, and will strengthen consumer confidence in communities across the country. Furthermore, the income level of \$75,000 for individuals and \$150,000 for married couples was included in the bipartisan CARES Act and end-of-the-year relief package that passed in December 2020 with strong bipartisan support.

We thank you for your attention to this important issue and urge you to maintain the higher thresholds to assist families who are struggling daily to get through the pandemic.

Sincerely,

Mike Thompson Member of Congress

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Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress Jimmy Gomez Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler Member of Congress

John B. Larson Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr. Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano Member of Congress

Alcee L Hastings Member of Congress

Ro Khanna Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis Member of Congress

Joe Neguse Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky Member of Congress

Mark Takano Member of Congress

Bradley S. Schneider Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton Member of Congress Judy Chu Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr. Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell, Jr. Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren Member of Congress

Linda T. Sánchez Member of Congress

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D. Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman Member of Congress

Barbara Lee Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier Member of Congress

Ed Case Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly Member of Congress Katie Porter Member of Congress

Mike Levin Member of Congress

Jackie Speier Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene Member of Congress

Lucille Roybal-Allard Member of Congress

André Carson Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley Member of Congress Jerry McNemey Member of Congress

Al Green Member of Congress

Jared Huffman Member of Congress

Doris Matsui Member of Congress

James P. McGovern Member of Congress

Jennifer Wexton Member of Congress

Grace Meng Member of Congress

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes Member of Congress

Adam B. Schiff Member of Congress